

I. Objection under 37 CFR § 1.75:

The Examiner has objected to claims 6-8 and 16 as being of improper form. According to the Examiner, a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim.

Q2 Applicants have amended claim 6 to depend solely from claim 5. Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 6. Claim 16 is not pending in the application. In light of the amendment, applicants respectfully submit that the objection should be withdrawn.

II. Objection under 35 USC § 112:

The Examiner has objected to claims 10-15 and 17. Because these claims are not pending in the application, applicants respectfully submit that the objection should be withdrawn.

III. Rejection under 35 USC § 103:

The Examiner rejected claims 9 and 18 as obvious over Swamer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,258,500) in view of Tsuda et al. (WO 93/21140). Applicants note that claim 18 is not pending in the application. Claim 9 has been amended to include a ratio of HF to monochloromonofluoromethane of 100:1. This ratio is neither taught nor suggested by the references relied upon by the Examiner. In light of this, the rejection of claim 9 should be withdrawn.

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**Remarks**

No new matter is presented by the amendment. Support for the amendment to claim 9 may be found in claim 1. Support for new claims 19 and 20 may be found in the specification on page 3, at lines 20-22. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider U.S. Patent 5,672,786 ('786 Patent) (Information Disclosure Statement attached) in the further examination of the subject

application. The subject application and the '786 Patent contain claims which overlap. Specifically, claims 1 - 8 of the instant application are the same as claims 1 - 8 of the '786 Patent. Applicants respectfully request that an interference be declared between these cases and are submitting herewith the requisite showing under 37 CFR § 1.608 (a) to facilitate this action.

Respectfully submitted,

Clemmer et al.

Date:

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By:



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Enclosures:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- Form PTO-1449 citing one reference
- Copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,672,786
- Declaration Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.608(a)